

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request a copy of the form PTO-1449 submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 24, 2004, initialed by the Examiner indicating consideration of the cited documents.

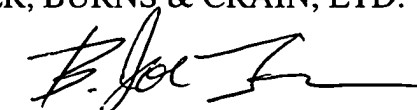
In the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 24, 2004, Applicants inadvertently checked a paragraph reciting a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2). The correct paragraph that should have been checked is the one reciting the statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1). A copy of the Communication issued by the European Patent Office was enclosed with the Information Disclosure Statement and is also attached herewith.

The proposed amendments to the Specification and Abstract place the Application in better form for issuance. As such, the proposed amendment is merely formal in nature, does not introduce new matter, and does not affect the scope of the claims. Therefore, it is believed that the proposed amendment is permissible under 37 C.F.R. §1.312. Accordingly, approval and entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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